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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/993,362	11/16/2001	Nils O. Olsson	3993968-126973	1397

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EXAMINER

STERLING, AMY JO

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3632

DATE MAILED: 10/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/993,362

Applicant(s)

OLSSON ET AL.

Examiner

Amy J. Sterling

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 September 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,5 and 7-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,5 and 7-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

This is the **Final Office Action** for application number 09/993,362 Zero Looseness Fastener for Linkage Assembly, filed on 11/16/01. Claims 1, 2, 4 and 6-25 are pending. This **Final Office Action** is in response to applicant's reply dated 9/15/05. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Applicant's amendment necessitated any new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action.

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 9/15/05 has been entered.

All claims are drawn to the same invention claimed in the application prior to the entry of the submission under 37 CFR 1.114 and could have been finally rejected on the grounds and art of record in the next Office action if they had been entered in the application prior to entry under 37 CFR 1.114. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL** even though it is a first action after the filing of a request for continued

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examination and the submission under 37 CFR 1.114. See MPEP § 706.07(b).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

Claim 1, 2, 4, 5 and 7-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 2398532 to Keehn and in view of United States Patent No. 5738475 to Chaban.

The patent to Keehn discloses a mounting assembly having a linkage assembly having a first link (P), having a first external surface and a thickness, a first internal surface, and a first aperture with a first longitudinal length extending between the first external surface and the first internal surface, a second link (P) having a second external surface and a second thickness, a second internal surface, and a second aperture with a second longitudinal length extending between the second external surface and the second internal surface, and a single piece fastener (1) having a head portion (6) located on the external surface of the first link and a cylindrical body portion extending therefrom and terminating at a distal end opposite the head portion. Keehn teaches a hollow rivet with a central bore having an internal diameter, wherein the central bore extends for a length less than the total length of the body portion wherein the central bore is open at the end of the body portion opposite the head portion (6) and is closed toward the body portion and wherein the body portion is expanded outwardly within the apertures to engage the links (P).

Keehn also shows wherein the body portion of the fastener extends through the first and second apertures and that the fastener has a length that is greater than the sum of the first thickness and the second thickness of the links such that when the internal face of the first link is placed against the internal face of the second link and the body portion is inserted through the first and second links, a segment of the body portion extends beyond the links, wherein the distal end of the body portion is plastically deformed to form a lip (5) engaging an external surface of the second link and allows rotational movement and not linear movement wherein the lip portion locks the fastener to one of the links to prevent relative rotational movement while allowing the other link to rotate, wherein the central bore has a maximum internal diameter which extends through all of the second longitudinal length of the second aperture and more than half of the first longitudinal length of the first aperture so that the central bore extends a distance which is at least half-way through the aperture, such that the body portion which is plastically deformed into contact with the first link (P) near the head portion, within the first aperture to provide surface to surface contact between the body portion and the first link from the first internal surface and extending in a direction toward the head portion for more than half the first longitudinal length of the first aperture, which eliminates free play between the first link and the fastener.

Keehn does not specifically show that that the links are used in a movable seat track.

Chaban shows a fastener (92) and links (82, 88) used in conduction with a moveable seat track (10), used in order to move the desired seat components while

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securing the two links together. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have used the fastener of Keehn in conjunction with the moveable seat track of Chaban, in order to move desired components to a desired location while being secured together.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 7-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.


### ***Conclusion***


**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Amy J. Sterling at telephone number 571-272-6823. The examiner can normally be reached (M-F 8 a.m.-5:00 p.m.). If attempts to

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reach the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Olszewski can be reached at 571-272-6788. The fax machine number for the Technology center is 7571-273-8300 (formal amendments) or 571-273-6823 (informal amendments and communications). Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist at 571-272-3600.

AJS   
Amy J. Sterling  
10/12/05

 10/17/05  
ROBERT P. OLSZEWSKI  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600